

Challenge: Student Recognition

Elements of Student Voice: Supporting Staff, Peer Support, Exploring Self, Identity, and Goals

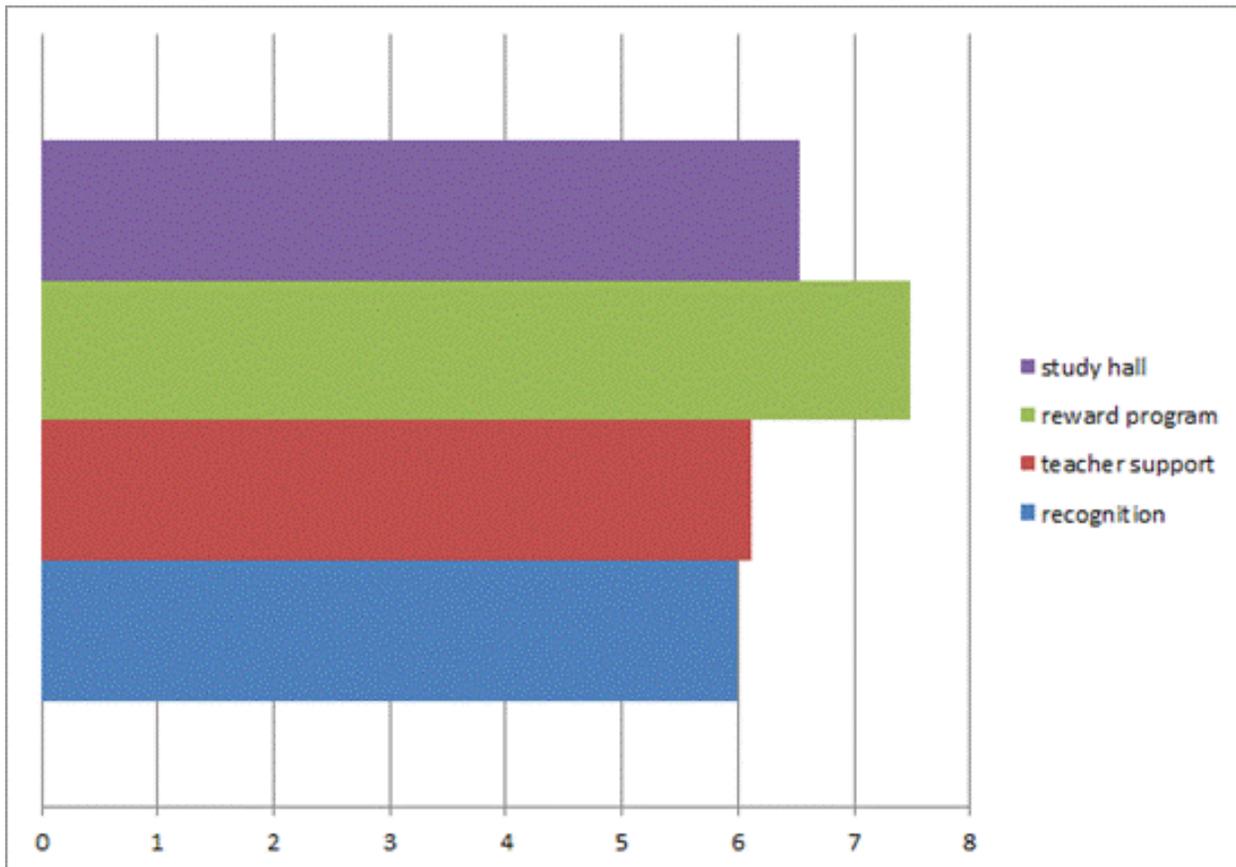
I. Research: Student Voice School Review

1. The problem

- Landmark could do better job recognizing and rewarding students showing improvement (Survey)
- Most students believe rewarding students would encourage them to do better (Survey)
- 5 out of 6 students believed that going out to lunch and receiving incentives would be a great way to improve recognition. (Focus group).

Survey Questions / Results (50 Students Surveyed on a scale of 0-8):

- Do you feel Landmark does a good job recognizing students showing improvement in their classes? (Avg Response: 6)
- Do you feel supported by teachers in classes that are difficult? (Avg Response: 6.12)
- Do you believe rewarding students with a lunch pass would encourage them to do better? (Avg Response: 7.49)
- Do you believe that Landmark students would attend a study hall during lunch for tutoring and portfolio help? (6.53)



2. At the Root

Student Voice Element #1: Support Staff

Students and teachers expressed concerns toward finding ways to better support students (interviews)

Student Voice Element #2: Peer Support

Landmark students are building a student voice program to recognize other landmark students (survey)

Student Voice Element #3: Exploring Self

Helping students reflect on how well they can improve academically in supporting them in setting goals with incentives and rewards (focus group and interviews). In our focus groups and student council discussions - students and faculty expressed a desire to recognize students that may not feel appreciated in school (for example: students that are not on honor roll but still do their work and show great effort).

3. What's Already Being Done About It

- Having meetings (student council/action team)
- During student council meetings we take time to meet with nominated students and check-in on progress toward goals, consult with teachers on making up assignments, set new goals, and share advice on how to achieve goals.
- Student receive text messages from SVC facilitators to make sure they're on track and provide extra support.

4. What do students think we should do about it?

- Voted for a project that focuses on student recognition and improvement during student council.
- Helping us think of ways to promote the challenge. For example, students should be nominated by teachers, support by SVC and student council, and rewarded as they prove commitment to program.
- Brain storm ideas for incentives

II. Action Plan Outline

1. Campaign Name: Student Recognition & Improvement Program

2. The BIG idea

- Students that are improving will be recognized and rewarded
- Teachers will nominate the students who would be recognized
- Students will attend a weekly meeting and set goals and evaluate progress
- Students that meet goals will receive lunch passes and gift cards

3. How Campaign Will Strengthen Student Voice

Element #1: Staff Support

We need the staff to help us pick out the students that will be recognized

Element #2: Peer Support

Peers will help build the program

Element #3: Exploring Self, Identity, Goals

We will promote positive energy and school identity. Student participants reflect on themselves, set goals, and monitor themselves !

4. How Campaign Will Learn From/Build On What's Already Been Done

- We're working to create a system that supports students in striving toward the Honor Roll
- Help build communication between teachers and students
- New way to track the student's progress

5. What Research Tells Us Works

Research tells us that students are more likely to do better when they get a reward. Incentives are a good motivation in order to reach goals.

6. Changes to Plan Based on What Research Says Works

Based off of research we decided to give a \$10 chipotle gift card even when the students made little progress so that they knew their efforts mattered.

7. Measuring Progress

Indicators:

- Student grades
- Student attendance
- Student feedback (interviews/surveys)
- Teacher feedback (interviews)

8. Steps to LAUNCH Campaign

- 1.) Find the students by interviewing teachers.
- 2.) Hold opening celebration for students chosen.
- 3.) Create a budget and decide what awards to give students who meet goals
- 4.) Create a bulletin board

9.) Steps to ORBIT the Campaign

- 1.) We meet every Tuesday, during lunch
- 2.) Escort students to their teachers and have conversations about progress
- 3.) Help students organize and catch up with their work
- 4.) Track progress, students have been checking their Jupiter grades more regularly

III. Outcomes

1. How much progress is your campaign making?

To start with we have made a lot of progress with our campaign because our 5 students always come to our meetings and they also have made progress with bringing up their grades.

Student 1:

Goal: Improving English grades

Solutions: Meet subject teacher, keep track of what has been missing, and hand in assignments.

Outcome: Grade April 1st: English: D – Grade May 22nd: English: B+

Student 2:

Goal: Improving Physics and English grades

Solutions: Meet subject teachers, keep record of what is missing, make-up incomplete homework assignments, and participate more in class.

Outcome: Grade April 1st: Physics: D+ / English: D – Grade May 22nd: Physics: B- / English: C

Student 3:

Goal: Improving all grades, finish homework (finish trimester with 3.0)

Solutions: Meet subject teachers, keep record of what is missing, and make-up incomplete homework assignments

Outcome: Grade April 1st: English: F – Grade May 22nd: English: B+ / currently at 2.7 GPA (working toward 3.0 by the end of the year !)

Student 4:

Goal: Improving Physics grade

Solutions: Meet subject teacher and make-up assignments.

Outcome: Grade April 1st: Physics: D+ - Grade May 22nd: Physics: C+

2. Reflection

What worked?

- Students were really motivated to come and show up to our meetings since the Student Council atmosphere was safe and inviting
- Some students have to be pushed in a positive way in order to do what they need to do
- Students responded really well when someone accompanied them to talking to their teachers

What didn't work?

- We wish more students got involved with the program
- We didn't have enough people know about the program, throughout the school
- It was hard to track attendance and lateness so we might have to refine goals that have to do with tardiness.

3. Next Steps

- Advertise the program more around the school so that others outside of the program know about the people being recognized
- Collaborate with the mentoring program and combine our target groups of students so more students are being recognized
- Increase the number of "mentors" so that more people can get involved
- Include a variety of rewards to keep interest